

ET2 [REDACTED]

Below is a summary of interview of ET2 [REDACTED], USCG, conducted by the AIM informal board on August 23, 2006 concerning the diving incident which resulted in two deaths on 17 August 2006. AIM board members present at the interview were Captain [REDACTED], LCDR [REDACTED], and LCDR [REDACTED].

ET2 [REDACTED] has served aboard CGC HEALY for [REDACTED], beginning in the [REDACTED]. This is his third deployment. He is a qualified [REDACTED] but did not stand watch on 17 August. He is one of HEALY's qualified EMT and stretcher bearers.

On 17 August, he heard the pipe for ice liberty and like many others headed out onto the ice. He noted that there was beer available on the ice, and he consumed two of them. He stated that he knew there was a two beer limit from word of mouth, and that someone usually keeps track with a roster. On this occasion there was no one actively monitoring the beer, or taking names. His name was not checked off of any list, so far as he is aware.

ET2 [REDACTED] spent his liberty time talking to others and wandering around the ice. At one point he made his way over to the bow area to watch the polar bear swim – a group of scientists and crew members jumping into the arctic in bathing suits and underwear. The polar bear site was very close to the dive site – they were approximately 20-30 feet apart.

As he was observing the polar bear swim, he heard a call for help from one of the dive tenders. He also heard the BMCS telling the tenders to "go slow," while pulling the divers up. A short while later, he heard BMCS say "no bubbles, hurry up...get them up." ET2 [REDACTED] ran over and helped pull LT HILL from the water. Her mask was full of white foam. He looked over and saw that BM2 DUQUE's mask was full of red foam that was also coming out of his mask.

ET2 [REDACTED] began several cycles of CPR on LT HILL, 15 x 2 repetitions, and called for the AED. When the AED arrived, he attached it, followed the instructions on the panel and instructed everyone to stand clear. The machine did an evaluation, and reported that it recommended against shocking LT HILL. The machine was unable to find any electrical impulse for LT HILL's heart and thus had nothing to shock. Per protocol, he resumed CPR. He is currently qualified in CPR.

LT HILL's skin appeared to be veiny and she appeared almost blue with white lips. She was brought to sickbay when the medical personnel said she should be transported. Once in sickbay, ET2 switched divers and began working on BM2 DUQUE. BM2 DUQUE's neck veins were protruding a great deal and his lips and tongue were both very white. ET2 [REDACTED] continued CPR on him for over an hour. All efforts were unsuccessful.

After ET2 [REDACTED] was told to stop CPR he was very emotional and cried for about 10 minutes. He then helped put LT Hill and ET2 [REDACTED] in the body bags.

[REDACTED]

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